



The

GARZETTE

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June, 1995

The Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

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The PRESIDENT'S PEN

by Howard Gould, W4NVF

It seems like it was just yesterday that I took over my second year at the helm as your President. The first 90 days of this term have gone by swiftly, and sometimes it feels like I have not accomplished enough. But a lot *has* been done so far and we are looking forward to some good changes in the near future.

Being your President has affected some of the things I would like to do with my own personal life style, and this holds true with some other active club members. But it is keeping me young and full of energy so I'm not complaining. If I wasn't doing this, it would be something else, as I was never one to sit still much. ►

(PREZ, Continued on p.2)

Steve Sims, KS4EV

GARS

HAM OF THE MONTH

by J. Pickett Cummins, AD4S

The GARS Ham of the Month this month is Steven Earl Sims, KS4EV. Steve has been one of the guiding forces of our twice weekly code practice sessions on the repeater, and has been a member of GARS since 1993. This is the last of three HOM articles involving the three musketeers from Lanier Products (or is that Musk Laniers..?) We have already interviewed, Jack, KS4LS and Joe, AD4PZ.

Steve is originally from North Hornell, N.Y., which is about 150 miles south of Rochester. His father was a minister, and with Steve was around 4 years old his family moved to Stevenson, Alabama. That is in Northeast Alabama, and is probably as big as North Homell. Steve also lived in Huntsville.

By the time he got to high school, Steve was living in Waycross, Georgia where he stayed for 17 years. He was a trombone player in both the high school marching and concert bands (he should talk to an earlier HOM, AD4ML, also a trombonist). Steve was also the head of math team for 3 years. His ►

(HAM, Cont'd on p.9)

VHF/UHF-FM Repeater Etiquette

by Duane Hanson, KD4KCR

In all of Amateur Radio, nothing is finer than Two Meter (FM) repeater operation. Unlike HF operation where you rarely get to see the person that you have regular conversations with, we have opportunity to meet our 2 Meter buddies regularly. We gather at club meetings, over coffee at a local diner or many times even at their homes to check out each others stations.

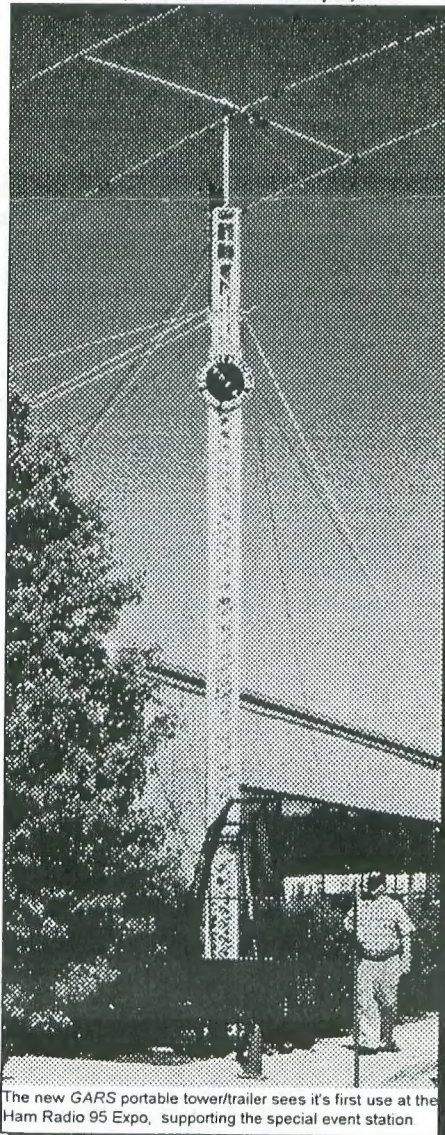
Signals on VHF/UHF FM repeaters are generally clear and very readable, so we can communicate in plain everyday English, even detecting the faintest of accents, or the heaviest of brogues. We do not need to use "10 codes" (ham tradition actually shuns the use of them) or other shortcuts that might not be clear in their meaning.

Sometimes this closeness makes us forget standard operating procedures. Not that there are any hard and fast rules for operating (*other than the well known FCC rules*) but a long standing tradition of excellence, courtesy and service should be well apparent in our language and general operating practices.

Recently, I compared the "On The Air" sections in the "Operating Aids" chapter of a 1993 ARRL Handbook against the 1973 version. It had not grown in information as one might expect in all that time. It is a shame more traditions are not detailed in these manuals. If they were, new hams would not be as intimidated when first get on the air. After a little studying and listening, they could jump right in with good operating habits.

I always respected hams a great deal during my years of operating in the Citizen Band, and my respect has ►

(ETIQUETTE, Cont'd on p.5)



The new GARS portable tower/trailer sees it's first use at the Ham Radio 95 Expo, supporting the special event station.

The GARZETTE

The GARZETTE is the official monthly organ of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the Amateur Radio art.

Original articles, art and photos are invited and encouraged. Previously copyrighted submissions cannot be accepted for reprinting unless permission from the appropriate publisher is provided in writing along with the information being submitted. If reprints are from publications allowing their unrestricted use, please include a copy of the printed permission contained in the publication.

If possible, submit items in ASCII format by posting a private message to Dean Matthews on the GARS conference of the Scientific Atlanta BBS (806-7372), then use the Save Attached save command, which will prompt you to upload your ASCII file. Art can be accepted in TIFF or PCX format on IBM formatted disk.

Contact the Editor for odd format compatibility, or other means of transfer. Deadline for article submissions is the first Thursday of each month.

GARZETTE EDITOR

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The tedious and time consuming job of copying and mailing The GARZETTE is performed monthly by Jack Herndon, KS4LS and Joe Biddle, AD4PZ. Joe is also responsible for the photo and artwork scans seen regularly in The GARZETTE. Our thanks to them and Lanier Business Machines for all their help in producing The GARZETTE.

The GARS address is:

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JOIN GARS

Membership dues for 1995-1996 are:

\$25.00 for Individual Memberships

\$35.00 for Family Memberships

Dues reduced for mid-year additions, see membership application for details, or...

Call Jack Herndon, KS4LS at 995-0438 for more information about joining GARS.

(PREZ, Continued from p.1)

Once, for just a few short years, I was not very active with radio. I remember coming back to it, and the joy I had getting back on the bands and rag-chewing with many old friends.

I have devoted most of my adult life to ham radio. It was such an experience in my early life, I guess it just had to be.

Finding out about RF as a skinny little kid, boy did my eyes light up and my heart beat with excitement when I tested my first home-brewed rig. I used a large neon bulb that I've kept all these years with fond memories of how it was used. I couldn't afford expensive test equipment - all I had was a Simpson volt-ohmmeter and my RF sniffer.

I was a Novice Class, and had just completed my first rig. It was built was strictly for CW, and had a 5763 pentode driving a 6146 final - for a full 75 watts input, not output. In those days you measured the final plate current of your final tubes with the voltage and came up with a DC power input to your final stage. Figuring about 60 percent efficiency meant you could get about 45 watts up to the antenna.

It was crystal controlled, on the 80 meter Novice band.

The antenna was a long wire wrapped around the many chimneys of six family apartment houses, as I lived in the city then. I remember having the antenna hooked up to a pi-output tank circuit through a coupling coil.

I had made a few CQ's with no response, so I took my little RF sniffer and touched the bulb to the antenna lead while I keyed down the rig. Wow! I drew such a spark off the lead, and the bulb was full brilliance glowing a bright orange. That was the day I learned to give RF some deep respect.

The wonder radio was too much for me. Since that time I have had a few RF burns, some large enough to leave a burn mark on my skin for months. RF will not shock you, it just burns a hole through you (unless your dealing with thousands of watts, and there is no lesson to learn because your dead).

A local writer, very much interested in how ham radio used to be, called me recently wanting my input because of my 38 years as a Ham. He is

GARS GROWS GREATLY BY GOLLY!

by Jack Herndon, KS4LS

Eight new members were voted in at the May meeting!

Welcome these hams to GARS:

Raymond L. Kaplan, KA9GJL

Jon Swarner, KE4TVB

Roosevelt Allen, KE4ZAD

Paul Phipps, KE4ZQE

Doyle F. Whiteaker, KD4QB

Greg Mader, KA1HWX

Jeff Harrison, KD4GPI

Associate Members

Jim Larkin

Welcome these new members at the next club meeting or on the air! -ED ♦

quite a SWL and loves tube type equipment, and intends to write articles for various newspapers and magazines. We discussed changes that have taken place over the years and how they relate to today's new ham radio operator.

We came to the conclusion that Amateur Radio will never be like it once was, simply because technology has made today's equipment so complex that only a select few can really fix their own radios, and then only if it's a minor problem. The Amateur Radio operator of the past was a person who loved to take the case off of his unit and tune it up and with easy to follow circuit diagrams, easy access to parts and easy access to parts houses that stocked everything, it was only a matter of time getting to the problem, and almost no one sent the rig back to the manufacturer for repairs.

We should keep alive the memories of how it used to be, while making room for the new wave of Amateur Radio operators. There are enough old timers around to educate the newcomers in operating practices the ham bands won't become like CB. We owe it to the hobby

(PREZ, Continued on p.3)

(PREZ, Continued from p.2)

to keep our bands free of garbage. We have to teach these new operators a whole new language. Yes, teach! There is no other way to ensure we continue to respect each others privilege to communicate, according to the regulations set up for us by the powers-that-be, and by time honored ham traditions.

We all must follow our code of ethics when addressing these problems, and discuss these things with great care with the persons involved. Amateur radio is alive and well as can be seen by the weekly addition of new hams. Have patience with them - they need our help and support if they are to become better operators

ODDS & ENDS

Our new meeting place is working out just fine, and should continue to do well judging by all the new faces that showed up for our last meeting. If you are looking for a night to relax and have fun with some of your local friends, then come to the next meeting. We will welcome you!

Our club founders spent time setting up the by laws way back when, certainly a lot of thought and effort went into it. Like everything else in life - changes are

said, if you don't renew by June 1st, you must fill out a new application before you can start receiving the newsletter

THANKS

Special mention is given this month to: Dave, AD2Q for his leadership in the



The GARS special event station really stands out at the Snellville Days, under the new portable awning recently purchased for such displays. In addition to the HF station, GARS handled communications for parade co-ordination as we have done in years past.

and patch privileges again.

I hope those of you who are reading this newsletter, and have not renewed will take notice. It will be your last newsletter. I hope you value your membership as most of us do, and will renew without delay.

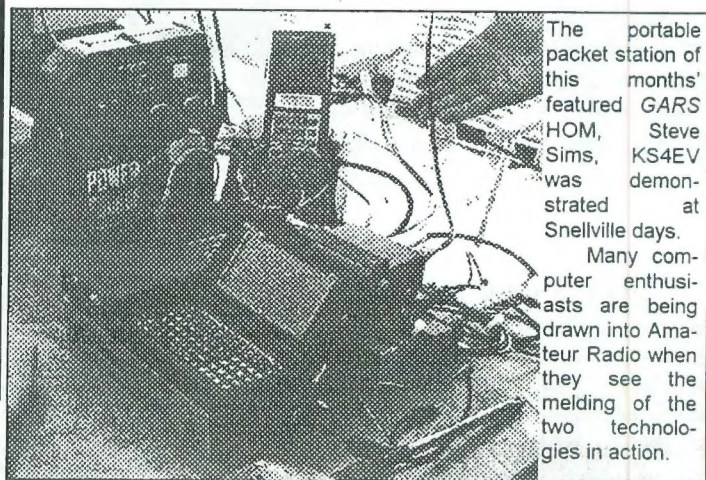
As a club we have been committed

recent Hog Mountain bike race; Bill, KE4EIH for his leadership in the recent Dacula Memorial Day parade; Pickett, AD4S for his swapping out a nice TH3 beam for the 7 element donated by John, KB4NUC of HRO who also gets special mention this month. This beam is light enough to raise on our portable tower making it ideal for some of our future radio demonstrations.

Special mention is also given to: Cheryl, AE4HN who is dedicated to seeing the code practice continue on Tues-



Charles, AD4MI really pulled in the contacts on the Special Event HF station at Snellville Days. GARS really shines at these demonstrations!



The portable packet station of this month's featured GARS HOM, Steve Sims, KS4EV was demonstrated at Snellville days.

Many computer enthusiasts are being drawn into Amateur Radio when they see the melding of the two technologies in action.

taking place for the better in our structure. We now have half-price Student and Senior Citizens rates, which should attract some new members and help some who are already members.

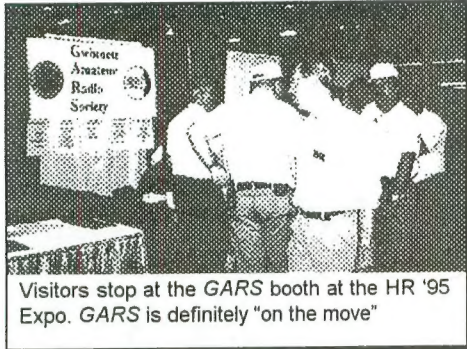
After June 1st, our roster shrank a little, but that is another common problem that all clubs share. Our founders

to activities that have been just outstanding and those members who have committed themselves to doing these activities must be commended for their efforts in keeping the club active. day evenings but destined to fade away if no one comes forward to help her. This is serious business folks and volunteers are needed badly. Mike, WB2SQS for

(PREZ, Continued on p.4)

(PREZ, Continued from p.3)

his donations of very nice full coverage earphones so the VE sessions can hear better and the field day stations can now be comfortable - at least with their ears.



Special thanks go to Junior, KE4VWC for his many donations of grounding equipment and labor to install same at Snellville. He also did a great job of supporting the base of the old tower that we have to take down at Snellville. Now we can climb it with top safety for the climbers. Brian, NX9O for his time and effort spent on cleaning up the 440 machine. Arnold, KC4ZUA for his donations of time and effort spent on the Snellville electrical supply system and door locks. There are many others who I have neglected to mention as the list is too numerous for this writing, but I want to thank them also for the time and effort spent with GARS keeping the club alive and well.

FIELD DAY

Remember field day is coming fast, and you should get geared up for it. There will be lots of hours during early morning when the stations need to be manned so plan on keeping them going with your help. Help is also needed to

see that the cooking gets done and everyone has time for a little break now and then. We can not run field day with just a handful of volunteers..

CLUB PICNIC

Remember the GARS/ALFORD joint club picnic will be at Fort Yargo State Park in Winder on July 22nd from 10 to sundown. Marty, KE4MLH needs to know if your coming so we can plan the right amount of food and drinks. Let him know and no later than the end of field day. This is a rough job he and his helpers have taken on, and we need to show them that we really care about all the hard work they are going through to make this event a fun time for everyone.

This is your time to shine and just have a good time as this will be after all the hard activities GARS has done all year. You deserve it.

ATLANTA HAMFEST

Remember the Atlanta Hamfest July 15/16. We need lots of security people to make this work smoothly. Please sign up with Ike, KE4GYM or David, KA4KKF so we don't have to ask others to work triple shifts.



The Ham Radio '95 Special Event Station and hamfest Talk-In making good use of the new GARS trailer/tower pictured on page 1.

Welcome to all the new members of GARS. I hope that your GARS experience is a pleasant one full of enjoyment and learning. If you need help with anything - antenna raising parties, tour of local ham stations, or whatever assistance you need - just ask. We will do our best to help you.



The HR '95 Expo really packed in the exhibitors!

GARS CLUB HOUSE

We are working on a GARS club house. Right now it's a dream, but all we need is a donor to make it a reality. We're not fussy about what shape it's in because we have commitments from various sources who can donate materials and labor to put it together. We just need a piece of land and a run down place that needs lots of work, or little work, we don't care, just so long as we get it. Imagine your own club house with plenty of antennas out back, good radio equipment to operate, a place to eat and have meetings, visit it anytime you want, wouldn't that be great?

See you at the next meeting at Captain Billy's Fish House. Bring your appetite and a buddy to rag chew with you won't regret it - we have lots of fun.

73,
Howie, W4NVF

A Not Very Funny Production ♦

Contact GARS

OFFICERS 1995-1996

President:	W4NVF	Howard Gould	921-8362
Vice Pres:	KD4QFD	Larry Osborne	381-5611
Secretary:	KE4GYM	Ike Chapman	339-8123
Treasurer:	WA4QYY	Charles Evans	448-0930
Activities:	KA4KKF	David Adcock	963-5767

COMMITTEES

Editor:	AD4OD	Dean Matthews	962-8941
Trustee:	KO4ZS	Paul Bennett	206-0215
Awards:	AD4MI	Charles Robison	923-3610

COMMITTEES, cont'd

Repeater:	W4NVF	Howard Gould	921-8362
Control Operators:	KD4QFD	Larry Osborne	381-5611
	KS4LS	Jack Herndon	995-0438
	AD4PZ	Joe Biddle	963-4316
	KE4GYM	Ike Chapman	339-9231
	KD4KCR	Duane Hansen	962-6086
	W4NVF	Howie Gould	921-8362
	KA4EMV	Bob DeVeau	923-3963
	K4HRB	Ron Davidson	466-4932
Membership:	KS4LS	Jack Herndon	995-0438
Publicity:	AD4PZ	Joe Biddle	963-4316
	W4WKP	Johnny Fearon	466-4038
Rookie Radio:	KS4PP	Cheryl McClure	995-5159
Field Day:	AE4CQ	Vincent Hrabosky	246-9630
Ham Classes:	KA9UIE	Steve Idler	513-0428
HF/VHF/UHF Awards Manager:	KE4GGP	Don Ennest	923-4851
DXCC Awards Checker:	AF4Y	Frank Deak	978-6546

(ETIQUETTE, Cont'd. from p. 1)

grown since joining the world wide fraternity of Amateur Radio Operators. When first licensed, I had to be corrected occasionally to help me shed a few CB habits. These corrections sometimes came on the air - but always in a most courteous and helpful manner. Most often, I was assisted via telephone by many other hams that wanted me to get the most enjoyment possible out of my time on the local repeater.

I want to thank those who helped me during those formative months, and I would like to pass on my observations to the GARS membership. This is not intended to come down on anyone, as I do not stand in a position of authority regarding anyone's operating habits or techniques. I would simply like to help others avoid some of the mistakes that I made early on.

In future articles I plan to go into CW and SSB, and even digital (RTTY etc.) modes of operation. But for now we will be talking mainly about FM repeater operation.

Repeaters are used to "bridge" the gaps caused by distance, geographical or man made obstructions. Ham "A" can now chat freely with ham "B" even though there are miles (and hills) between them. FM does have it's drawbacks though. First, it takes quite a bit of power to get that signal out - just the nature of the beast. Second, with FM, the strongest signals usually win!

With SSB or CW, a "double" (two stations keying at the same time) causes just a bit of trouble. Even weak stations can be acknowledged as being there, and with a good ear you can even copy both stations. Not so with FM. In this mode, either the station with the stronger signal completely wipes out the other - or if both stations are of equal strength, what is heard is a garble of just plain noise.

With this in mind it is doubly important to adhere to one of the cardinal rules of operation: listen. Listen to see if the frequency is clear before transmitting. On FM there is no need to ask if the frequency is in use, if you have been listening for more than 30 seconds. One mistake that I have made is that I have turned down the volume on my rig to chat with someone or listen to the

(ETIQUETTE, Cont'd on p.6)

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

Monthly Meeting Minutes

May 18, 1995

In attendance:

President Howard Gould, W4NVF; Vice President Larry Osborne, KD4QFD; Secretary Ike Chapman, KE4GYM; Treasurer Charles Evans, WA4QYY; Activities Manager David Adcock, KA4KKF

The meeting was called to order at 19:00 local time by President Gould at Captain Billy's Seafood House in Duluth. All members and visitors were invited to introduce themselves. A total of 55 people signed the meeting log.

Howie Gould, W4NVF reminded everyone that the club dues were due on April 1 but that the bylaws give each member a sixty day period in which to renew your membership. Any member that does not renew his/her membership by June 1 will have to reapply for membership.

Charles Robison, AD4MI presented GARS Challenge Packet awards to Joe Biddle, AD4PZ and Pickett Cummins, AD4S. Charles also presented GARS Challenge VHF 35 awards to Joe Biddle, AD4PZ, Pickett Cummins, AD4S, and Ike Chapman, KE4GYM.

Pickett Cummins, AD4S presented Dean Matthews, AD4OD the prestigious WAC (Worked All Cummins) award. This award is given upon completion of contacts with AD4S, W5CE, and K6MYH.

Vince Hrabosky, AE4CQ asked that anyone wanting to reserve a specific time slot for operating at Field Day please indicate that time slot on the sign up sheet being passed around.

Marty Fowler, KE4MLH asked that anyone planning on attending the GARS/Alford picnic at Fort Yargo State Park to sign up on the sheet being passed around and to indicate how many family members would be attending.

The meeting was turned over to David Adcock, KA4KKF, who introduced the speaker for the evening's program, David Rice, KD4SHH. David made a presentation and demonstration on ATV.

The business meeting was resumed after the program with the minutes from the April meeting being approved as published in the current GARZETTE.

Charles Evans, WA4QYY gave the treasurers report which was approved as read.

David Adcock, KA4KKF gave an update on upcoming club activities including the Hog Mountain Bike Ride, Dacula Memorial Day Parade, Field Day, ARC Hamfest, and GARS/Alford picnic.

Joe Biddle, AD4PZ presented eight applications for new membership in GARS. A motion was made and seconded to accept the applications as presented and the motion was voted to the affirmative without opposition. The new members of GARS are: Raymond L. Kaplan, KA9GJL; Jim Larkin, associate; Jon Swarner, KE4TVB; Roosevelt Allen, KE4ZAD; Paul Phipps, KE4ZQE; Doyle F. Whiteaker, KD4QB; Greg Mader, KA1HWX; Jeff Harrison, KD4GPI.

The HRO gift certificate was won by Jim Larkin.

The meeting was adjourned at 21:00 local time by President Gould. ♦

QUA

1st Tuesday,

Metro Atlanta Telephone Pioneers
Old Hickory House 5490 Chamblee-Dunwoody Rd. in Dunwoody. Dutch dinner is at 6:30PM, followed by meeting. TI-145.41-

1st Wednesday - HamWatch

Shoney's 11690 Alpharetta Hwy., Roswell (about 2 1/2 miles North of Holcomb Bridge Rd across from North Fulton Hospital) Dinner at 6:30PM. Meeting is at 7:30 PM

1st Thursday

N.E. Georgia Amateur Radio Club
Jefferson Civic Center, off Memorial Dr. toward Winder from Jefferson. Meeting is at 6:30PM. TI-147.225+

1st Thursday - Atlanta Radio Club

Kitteredge Magnet School, North Druid Hills Rd. and Briarcliff. 6:00PM. Meeting is at 7:30PM TI-146.82-

2nd Wednesday

North Fulton Radio League

Cherokee Cattle Company, 11208 Alpharetta Hwy. Dinner at 6:00PM. Meeting at 7:30PM TI-145.47-

2nd Thursday

Alford Memorial Radio Club

Elks Lodge on Memorial Drive. Dinner at 6:00PM Meeting at 7:30PM. TI-146.76-

2nd Saturday

East Atlanta LAN

Scott Blvd Baptist Church in Decatur. Meeting is at 10:00AM. TI-145.41-

3rd FRIDAY

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

Capt. Billy's Seafood, west of the mall on Pleasant Hill Rd. Fellowship buffet from 5:30PM to 7:00PM, meeting from 7:00PM to 9:00PM. TI-147.075+ ♦

(ETIQUETTE, Contd from p.5)

Broadcast radio. I'd then forget that the volume was down, pick up the microphone and key on top of someone using the repeater. Ugh... how embarrassing! I learned that not only should I listen, but I should also look at my "S-meter" to see if there is any activity. I have since made a practice of this.

A repeater, or for that matter any frequency, is like a old time telephone "Party Line", where you could pick up on the same line and hear all the news from the neighborhood gossipers. Anyone with a receiver can hear you, just like on those old phone systems. And before anyone else can use the repeater, they must wait till you are through, or try to find a break in the conversation.

Another item in the 1973 handbook illustrated it as: *"Like a bridge, a call should be just long enough to do the job."* Good Idea. That is why most repeaters have a "Time out" timer to teach overly conversant individuals to be brief.

Often we hear operators forced to use the last 2 or 3 letters of their call to break in on a conversation, because no space is left between transmissions for the newcomer to join in properly. Courtesy beeps are provided to remind operators to pause before keying the microphone to let others break in or join the conversation.

One reason I enjoy 2-meter operation is that when several folks get to chatting, it naturally flows to a "round table" format. If I have something to contribute, I can give my callsign - in a break in the conversation - and join in.

After being recognized, I can have my say and pass it along and eventually get responses from each member in the group. To go smoothly though I must

first do a good bit of listening. I need to know who all is in the group, what they are talking about, and what I want to add or ask. I at least need to know who passed the conversation to me and who I will be passing it to. This way, I am not caught asleep at the switch and I can keep things rolling along.

Lets all remember that our call sign was issued by the FCC to identify our station, and only a full and proper callsign will do. Unless you have a phonetically problematic callsign, (like one with M's and N's) it is unnecessary and wastes time to give your call phonetically. Unless you mumble or have a lousy microphone, most calls come across perfectly clear on FM repeaters. I know that we all spent a lot of time learning these phonetics - and are very proud that we know them - but let's use them when needed and not use them routinely.

When should you use phonetics? Sometimes when you give your callsign, someone comes back with your callsign in error. This would be a good time to use phonetics. I sometimes have to spell my name, Duane, when another operator mispronounces it. I first spell it "D-U-A-N-E" and then if they are not sure of the spelling, I will tell them "Delta-Uniform-Alpha-November-Echo; Duane". Now there should be no doubt.

If you do not know the standard phonetics, you may want to commit them to memory. If we all learn the same ones, it becomes easy to write down a spelling and get it right. If we all use different phonetics, confusion reigns as we have to think after each word is said, *"what was the first letter of that word?"* and then write it down. By that

(ETIQUETTE, Cont'd on p.7)

REFURBISHED/NEW TEST EQUIPMENT

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| > Hewlett-Packard | > Sorensen |
| > Tektronics | > Wavetronic |
| > Fluke | > Lambda |

David E. Gile Jr., KG5TX

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(ETIQUETTE, Cont'd from p.6)

time, we missed the next few words. Ugh, that is frustrating.

Here they are... Alpha Bravo Charlie Delta Echo Foxtrot Golf Hotel India Juliett Kilo Lima Mike November Oscar Papa Quebec Romeo Sierra Tango Uniform Victor Whiskey X-ray Yankee Zulu. Some old-timers may indicate that they learned others, but these are the current ones.

"Cute" callsign phonetics are becoming horribly over-used these days, reminiscent of CB "handles". I remember early on in Amateur Radio that I was told, off the air, "Pots have handles, hams have names." Today, when asked for my "handle" I simply reply "My name is Duane". If more folks would do this, maybe the request for "handles" would diminish. Let's remember that the only difference between an Amateur Radio Operator and a Professional operator is not his language but rather the professional gets paid to operate, the amateur does not.

When should you use "cute" callsign phonetics? If an operator continually has trouble remembering your identity, give him the memory aide version... once. An example: "Maybe this will help you remember my call, it is W-4-Not-Very-Funny". If he or she still doesn't remember you on your next contact, make it a point to meet the person face-to-face. That is all some people need to set their memory.

New hams are often confused that this time honored memory aide tool constitutes a proper identification, due to its over-use. It often actually makes it more difficult for others to decipher your real call.

It is also unnecessary and redundant to complete an ID by saying "for ID." Simply say: "This is [for example] KD-KCR" when your ten minutes come around. Why else would a ham say that over the air every ten minutes?

What about "Q" signals? Well to quote from the 1993 ARRL Handbook on page 37-3: "...some operators use standards or abbreviations inappropriately (such as "Q" signals on voice modes), where they may hinder rather than aid communication." Now the ARRL Handbook is not the Bible, but it does make a lot of sense. These "Q" signals were created by CW operators to speed along a slow mode of communication. The way they are used on phone, many times they say in three syllables what could just as easily be said in less.

Also the universal meaning of these signals are not known by all operators, or even by some of the ones who use them!

For example, just a few: "QSL" is often used to mean "Yes" on phone. Literally in CW it means "I am acknowledging receipt". Another: "QRT" means stop sending in CW. On phone what is meant when an operator says "QRT" seems to be that he is shutting down his station. The proper term would be "clear" or "I'm shutting down my station". Just one more, although there are

(ETIQUETTE, Cont'd on p.8)

> 12 STORE BUYING POWER! <



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(ETIQUETTE, Contd from p.7)

many: "QSY" in CW means "Change to transmission on another frequency (or on ... kHz)." I actually heard an operator say "I am 'QSY-ing' to the house." See how things get out of hand?

There are time honored exceptions, but very few. A real popular one is "73" - which means "Best Regards" in any mode - though it is numerical code, which normally never exist in ham language. Also: "88" means "hugs and kisses" and is traditionally exchanged between members of the opposite sex, and specifically spouses. Saying "73's" or "88's", however, butchers the meanings. It is like saying "best regardses" or "hugs and kisseses." Sounds silly, huh?

Well, I have beat this horse to death - but I hope I have made my point. FM phone is so clear that we need not use codes or abbreviations (*unnecessary techno-babble*) to get our message across. We would be far less intimidating to the new ham if we stuck to plain English. After all, the plain language of ham radio is one of the facets that attracted us old CB'ers in, right?

The new ham has gone through quite a bit to get to operate his new HT, and will have much more to learn about good operating without having to figure out a bunch of codes.

Another mistake I made on the local repeater: I forgot to switch to simplex operation when I could. I've learned to use the "reverse" button to see if I can hear the other station I am conversing with (*if it is just myself and one other station*). If I go to a simplex frequency, I can leave the repeater clear for others. This is most practical when I am giving someone a "talk-in" to meet me. It also works well when I'm traveling the same direction as another ham.

Of course the other person may have reason to remain on the repeater, but I need to keep these options in mind. If I hear a very weak station through the repeater, but can hear him very well on the repeater input - I can do everyone a big favor by getting the weak station to go to a simplex frequency as quickly as possible. Hearing one side of a conversation is extremely frustrating, especially if they are making nothing but noise.

Along these same lines, when I first got into the hobby I got a "handy talkie", (HT). These things are very good for convenient close in operation, but when they get very far out, they don't do well. What I have learned to do, when using low power, is to pay close attention to the relative signal strength meter on my HT (*or for that matter any rig*). If I don't have a "full scale" received signal from a 100 watt transmitter (*the repeater*) I certainly can't expect to get a good signal back into the repeater with my 5 watt HT OR my 50 watt mobile rig. I need to get more power or better location.

Another thing I need to listen for when on the "fringes" is the courtesy tone from the repeater. If after transmitting I do not hear that tone, I can bet that I didn't make it in. I might as well look for another repeater, a better location, or check my equipment for problems. All I can do at that point is make a lot of annoying noise if I get in at all.

Another thing I hear a lot is "kerchunking" on the repeater. I'm sure that a lot of this is done by unlicensed operators and not by legitimate hams [*I am not so sure -ED*]. Many GARS members (*like our control operators*) leave rigs on 24 hours a day. Kerchunking is an avoidable annoying illegal unidentified transmission. Avoid it.

If you need to check your SWR, do it on simplex. If you're testing a new rig, say so. Someone will usually come on and tell you how you sound!

If someone is *deliberately* interfering, kerchunking, bringing up the autopatch or making a general nuisance of themselves, the last thing we want to do is to encourage that behavior by talking about it! The quickest way to get rid of such activity is to simply ignore it. The violator will eventually tire of hearing the courtesy tone and leave.

No amount of threats or coercion will rid you of him, and any time spent trying simply ties up the repeater for other bona fide operations. In fact we cannot *legally* communicate on the ham bands with unlicensed operators! There is no rule against talking *about* unauthorized transmissions - but a little common common sense is in order here.

Regional BBS/Node/Digi/PBBS list,
compiled by AD4OD. Last update 06/03/95
Download or request latest revision, send additions or corrections to AD4OD-3 on 145.03 or to AD4OD at N4NIA-HomeBBS or to internet: ad4od@aol.com
Beam headings are from Suwanee Ga.

145.03					
BBS's	aka	freg	location		
N4NIA	EALBBS	145.03	Snellville		
Nodes	aka	freg	location		
WD4JXR-6	SNELLV	145.03	Snellville		
N4NIA-3	SNV03	145.03	Snellville		
24 hr	Digi	PBBS	aka	location	
AD4OD	AD4OD-2	AD4OD-3	WINO	Suwanee	
AD4S	AD4S	AD4S		L'ville	
AE4CQ				Lilburn	
KA4KKF				L'ville	
KS4EV				Lilburn	
WD4JEM	WD4JEM-1			L'ville	
145.05					
BBS's	aka	location	Beam	Notes	
KC4CGY	WALBBS	Wal. Grve	148	Callbook, BBS	
N4NFA	ROCK	Conyers	172	Mail Only	
KC4YCF-7		Monroe	128	Mail fwding to N4NFA	
Nodes	aka	location	Beam	Notes	
N4NFA-9	ROCK	Conyers	172		
KC4YCF	MONRO	Monroe	128		
KB4KZY	COW05	Sharpsburg	220	Mike-Has path to Alabama.	
24 hr	Digi	PBBS	Location	Beam	Notes
N4UCA	STK05	N4UCA-1	Stockbridge	200	Internatl Callbook
145.07					
BBS's	aka	location	Notes		
KR4OL-8	MCNBBS	Macon	Full Service BBS		
KN4FE-8	MANBBS	Manchester	Full Service BBS		
Nodes	aka	location			
KR4OL-7	MCN07	Macon			
W4WXA-7	MACON	Macon			
KN4FE-7	MAN07	Manchester			
KC4ZGP-7	WR07	Warner Robins			
WB4EOQ-7	BSRG07	Marietta			
24 hr	aka	Location	Beam		
N4ALE	ALEBOX	Athens	90		
145.09					
BBS's	aka	location	Beam		
N4RBT	CLEBBS	Cleveland	20		
Nodes	aka	location	Beam	Notes	
KD4DMK-7	SPARC	Cornelia	35		
Reach Via SPARC		TOC07			
N4RBT	LONGMT	Cleveland	20		
24 hr	Digi	PBBS	Location	Beam	
	WD4NHW-1	SPARC-1	Cornelia	35	◆

If we have good direction finding equipment and want to corner the chap, we need to do so without his knowledge. We need a direction finding team, and co-ordinate via telephone.

I was listening on 80 meter phone the other night and there was some LID (lousy inconsiderate dummy) who was digitally recording others on the frequency and playing it back over the air. Not only was this annoying for him to be

(ETIQUETTE, Contd on p.9)

(ETIQUETTE, Contd from p.8)

doing that but all on frequency was giving him good reason to continue.

They talked about how they were calling the FCC, how that guy would get caught, how annoying it was, how they couldn't get a decent conversation going and how they were going to just leave the frequency. After some time of listening, the LID was still there with his interference increasing by the minute.

You know that the LID was rolling in the floor. Now suppose that all on frequency never said squat about the LID. He would quickly tire - or think that there was something wrong with his transmitter - and, he would soon go off to another frequency and annoy someone else. I've seen this tactic work many times, but it takes practice, patience and skill to completely ignore such a jerk.

In conclusion, some readers may be thinking that this sure sounds regimented, but it is not meant that way.

WORK GARS

REPEATERS

2-Meter FM repeater 147.075 MHz +600
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An interactive Morse Code practice session follows the 8:00PM Tuesday night net on the GARS repeater, and on Thursdays at 9:00PM.

12/95

The golden rule of Amateur Radio is courtesy. If we talk clearly, distinctly and without codes, we can make ham radio more enjoyable and comfortable for the guy on the other end.

In CW you can generally tell a fellow's level of experience by his ability, and decide whether to use a lot of abbreviations (for an old timer) or to spell everything out for the slow nervous new ham. Using phone, it's not as easy to tell. We need to make the newcomers feel welcome and needed as they are going to pass on what they learn to others.

I would like to call on the more experienced hams out there to be good examples of good operating practices, and not call down a new ham (or a discourteous old one) on the air - but set the example of courtesy and tolerance.

Now, I must take extra care after speaking my mind not to make any more of the mistakes I have listed. Next time, I'll go into some of the mistakes I've made on CW. Best regards for now and see you later from KD4KCR.

Duane is a Past President of GARS and currently sits on the board of directors. In 1994 GARS honored him as GARS first "Ham of the Year." -ED

HAM, Continued from p.1

team went to state each of those years, and won 1st In Region his senior year.

College was at Georgia Southern in Statesboro where Steve majored in math. He graduated in 1983 and went to work Lanier Products doing entry level computer programming. Steve went back to work on an advanced degree and attended Mercer on his own time, then Lanier assisted in his pursuit of a higher degree at Georgia State. He is now 2/3 of the way through an advanced degree at two different schools.

Steve is still at Lanier now having been there for nearly 12 years. He holds a Private Pilot's license with an instrument rating. His other ratings include advanced flight, and instrument and ground instructor licenses. Steve became interested in general aviation while he did some computer consulting with the Centrum Group. The owner there got Steve interested. He has been flying for nearly 5 years and has logged more than 450 hours in the left hand seat.

Steve has a ham brother, David, KE4GXS in Alabama. Several years ago, Steve's wife indicated that she was interested in having a better way to contact him. he started looking around and found ham radio.

He talked to the people at HRO but was not particularly motivated by that contact. He continued to investigate Amateur Radio on his own persevered and got his technician's license. After the fact, he found out that Jack, KS4LS who he worked with was a ham. Jack introduced him to Joe, AD4PZ who is also with Lanier.

In February 1993, as KD4WAK, Steve decided to pursue an upgrade for the recognition and the unspoken competition of the "Lanier Associates". He made his way through the written tests pretty quickly all the way through advanced class. All the while he was studying the code. He finally got the 13 wpm certificate after 10 tries. The VE encouraged him to take the written element 3B so he would have general class privileges, since both his element 3B and 4A certificates had expired.

Steve passed the General written and then took the Advanced class written element 4A a week later. He had to

(HAM, Continued on p.10)

12/95

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(HAM, Continued from p. 1)

wait until his general class license was received from the FCC in order to process the form 610 for his Advanced class. Steve will tell you how to spell RELIEF. It is: KS4EV, his new Advanced Class call. Now he is thinking about the EXTRA.

His equipment includes a TS-440 and a G5RV on H.F., and a TS-733A dual-bander with an AR-270 on VHF/UHF. He is in the process of putting up a tower and is looking at one of the Diamond dual-band antennas. Steve got into packet with MFJ 1278 and KAM Plus, and he has a Baypac out on loan to his brother.

Steve is married to Eileen, an attractive oriental lady and has one daughter, age three. Steve also speaks fluent Mandarin. Other areas of interest for Steve are the technical aspects of electronics. He is especially knowledgeable regarding SRAM chips at the component level.

Steve has been involved in the GARS code practice almost from the beginning. He wrote a program (in PAS-CAL) to drive the 1278 and KAM directly, and built an interface to drive the H.F. rig simultaneously. Steve has been most helpful in keeping the code practice going now for nearly two years.

An interesting note regarding the first code practice Steve ever sent, was that he put his modem telephone number in the 20 wpm copy, and asked for anyone that could copy that fast to call him direct. He was amazed that his phone started ringing off the hook. (*The writer finally called him on his regular phone because the number that he had given in the code practice was busy for so long.*)

Steve is an excellent example of the high quality individuals who are entering the Amateur Radio hobby today. (*we have always had high quality... just wanted to point out that it is still that way*). Steve provided the packet station that was used for the demonstration at the recent Snellville Days activity. He has several interests that many of our members would find interesting to talk to Steve about. If you have not met Steve, look for him at many of the GARS activities and take the time to have an "eyeball QSO" with him. ♦

...From your science reporter...

Cheryl McClure, AE4HN

I was recently made aware of a study done at CDC that concerns Amateur Radio. Although the study was published in 1985, it may be of interest to you if you use an oil-filled dummy load. The paper was called "Amateur Radio Operators and Exposure to Polychlorinated Biphenyls" and was published in Archives of Environmental Health.

I quote:

"Amateur Radio Operators regularly use oil-filled devices to tune the frequencies of their transceivers. These "dummy loads" resemble gallon paint cans filled with oil into which a resistor is immersed. Leakage is common through vents on the top of the can. We were alerted to the possibility that oils used in these devices throughout the country were contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). Until 5-7 years ago, manufacturers recommended the use of used transformer oils, many of which contained PCBs, because of their excellent heat-dissipating properties. Amateur radio operators, therefore, could be exposed to significant levels of PCBs through two routes: (1) inhalation of oils volatilized during operation (as well as the PCBs they contain) and (2) direct contact with the oil in these devices.

To evaluate the possible exposures and concomitant health risks, we conducted an exposure assessment study in two phases: (1) an evaluation of the prevalence of environmental contaminations and (2) an assessment of human exposure. Of 77 oil samples collected, only 2 were contaminated above a 50-ppm level; analyses of blood specimens collected from these two owner-operators showed serum PCB-levels which were well within a "normal" or expected background range. Although, on the basis of these limited data, PCBs from contaminated oils do

not appear to be a hazard to Amateur Radio operators, we recommend that PCB-contaminated oils should not be used because of the continuing potential for exposure from either inhalation or direct contamination."

Bottom Line: If you pick up an old dummy load at a hamfest, be cautious. Although the study did not find widespread contamination they did find one dummy load that was 86% PCBs! Newer models should not have this problem. Reprints are available upon request.

Cheryl, AE4HN is a chemist in the CDC toxicology laboratory in Chamblee, and was the GARS featured Ham of the Month for April, 1995 -ED ♦

3-96

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Dacula Memorial Day 1995

by Bill Ahls, KE4EIH

GARS was busy in Dacula for both the First Dacula Memorial Day Run and the Second Dacula Memorial Day Parade. The weather was overcast and a few sprinkles came just before the parade. However, the weather held at overcast only and a good time was had by all participants and volunteers.

Officials thank GARS members working one or both events Bill Ahls, KE4EIH; John Sokol, KE4KPV; Karen Kregel, KC6JCX; Doug Kregel, KB6RRX; Jenny Eberhardt, KE4QOV; Lewis Eberhardt, KE4QNE; Marty Fowler, KE4MLH; Frank Cronic, KE4MSF; and David Adcock, KA4KKF.

At 7:00 a.m. GARS was there for final assignments, as runners were warming up and the race officials were running around with last minute tasks and locating last minute volunteers. The one mile race/walk began at 8:00 and finished by the 8:30 start time of the 5 kilometer run. GARS people changed to the new race positions in time for the 8:30 race. Then, the race was delayed slightly waiting for the police to get in position. The race had about 80 runners

waiting with some getting a little more nervous. The delay was only about 15 minutes before the runners were off. The first runner was finished in about 16 minutes. The last runner was finished in about 30 minutes.

Meanwhile the rest of the GARS volunteers were arriving with the parade participants. We changed to the new parade positions in time for the 10:00 a.m. parade. As the participants were located (one clown was never found) and lined up, the parade began. We had GARS hams in the beginning, middle and end of the parade and along the route of the parade. Maybe next year we could have a GARS banner in the parade? The parade had local celebrities, beauty queens, cavalry troop transport, Indians, horse riders, civil war re-enactors and clowns. A comment was heard that the cavalry was still after the Indians.

This is a technical note about the operation. All communicating was 2-Meters simplex over the few miles of terrain. We proved the longer half and 5/8 wave length "hotrod type" antennas had the most usable signals for this type of work. This is a trade off with some of the more fragile designs and dealing with the extra length to be potentially broken. A couple of watts was all the power required, with some operating on less. ♦

Field Day '95'

by Vince Hrabosky, AE4CQ

YES, Field Day is June 24 - 25 and officially starts at 1800UTC on Saturday (Local time 2:00 p.m.). Many of us will be there at 8:00 am to set up.

We'll be located at the pavilions in the woods at Rhodes Jordan Park in Lawrenceville. Just take Water Works road off of 120, go around the lake and we're at the top of the hill. The lake is full and looks great from our location.

We hope to have at least 5 HF stations, a packet station, and maybe a satellite station. There will be plenty of open rigs for those of you that want to give HF a try and we still need operators to help work the rigs through the night.

No matter what license level you have, or even if you're just an interested want-to-be HAM, I'm encouraging you to please show up and try your hand at operating. If you're a bit nervous about operating, we can team you up with someone who is experienced and is willing to help. You can take over when you feel comfortable or just help log and stations.

Come and enjoy the park, along with good FOOD, good friends, good conversation, and great contesting. ♦

GARS APPAREL ORDER FORM

(To avoid errors, please print legibly.)

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Name to be embroidered: _____ Call Sign to be embroidered: _____

Qty	Item	Size	Price (ea.)	Total
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_____	Heavy wt. jacket without name & call	_____	\$41.00	_____
_____	Light wt. jacket with name & call	_____	\$35.00	_____
_____	Light wt. jacket without name & call	_____	\$31.00	_____
_____	White hat with name & call	_____	\$12.00	_____
_____	White hat without name & call	_____	\$ 8.00	_____
_____	Red hat with name & call	_____	\$14.00	_____
_____	Red hat without name & call	_____	\$10.00	_____

Please attach your check made payable to GARS

and return to Jim Baker, KR4XY -or- mail to GARS, PO Box 88, Lilburn Ga 30226

Please allow 4 weeks for delivery, some items are special order. Thank you!

TOTAL _____

Rookie Radio Notes

by Cheryl McClure, AE4HN

HowieLab II has run into a snag. I called to order the radios and found that Ten-Tec has temporarily removed their 2 meter radio kit from the market to make some changes. Apparently the kit was fine for trained technicians to assemble, but your average ham was having trouble. Lets hope this results in a better product when it is made available. I'll keep in touch with Ten-Tec and we will order as soon as the radio kits are available.

I'm still looking for a few good hams to help me out with sending code practice. There are lots of folks out there

(Rookie, Continued on p. 12)

(Rookie, Continued from p. 11)

working on their code and it would be a shame to lose this resource. I know it made all the difference to me when I was struggling toward 20 WPM. It's easy to do! Just write three portions of text on absolutely any subject and use a free software package on your computer to send the text in Morse code while you hold a keyed microphone in front of the speaker. That is it! If you are interested, I'll even come to your house to help you set up your first practice. Call me at 995-5159.

Antennas anyone? We have a couple of people interested in having another antenna building workshop. We need a few more folks to sign up before we can proceed. This is an excellent opportunity to have expert advice while you build your first dipole. You can work on other antennas, but they usually take longer than half a day to finish. At the last workshop, I built an off-center fed dipole which was simple and quick to build. I can use it with a tuner to work almost all the HF bands. It's a great starter antenna. The plans are yours for a phone call. Call me if you want to sign up for the class and we will set a date (995-5159).

Any other subjects that you would like to see covered in a class? Give me some feedback at 995-5159, the Rookie Radio Hotline! ♦

A GREAT WAY TO SPEND A WEEKEND

The Georgia Special Olympics
by ????

Bruce finished the 50 yard dash in twenty one and one-half minutes. He had to work as hard as any athlete you ever saw to finish that race. Bruce is severely handicapped and confined to a wheelchair. He has no use of his arms at all. His legs are not much better, but he can move forward a few inches at a time by using his Karate Kick.

He does this by forcing the toe of his right shoe down on the ground. He then makes a wild downward kick with his left foot trying to hit the top of the right one. He usually misses three or four times but when he makes contact, the chair lurches forward, sort of.

GARS Executive Committee Meeting Condensed Minutes, May 11, 1995

In attendance:

Howie Gould, W4NVF, President; Larry Osborne, KD4QFD, Vice President; Ike Chapman, KE4GYM, Secretary; Charles Evans, WA4QYY, Treasurer; David Adcock, KA4KKF, Activities Manager; Joe Biddle, AD4PZ, Publicity Manager.

The meeting was convened at 19:00 local time at the Red Cross Building in Lawrenceville, GA by President Gould.

The first item on the agenda was a discussion of the Snellville repeater site and the progress being made there. Howie reported that he and Junior, KE4VWN had installed a grounding system for the site. Howie also discussed the layout of the equipment in the repeater shack. All GARS equipment and systems will be installed and set up before other users are allowed access to the site for equipment installation.

Howie reported on the status of the Mark 4 repeater, he had a phone conversation with Kendecom on Monday, May 2 and was told that they had located the problems, were repairing the repeater and would ship it back after a one week burn in of the machine. Howie said that he had not heard anything further from them since that date.

The committee approved to purchase an Astron 50W for the Snellville site backup power system by a vote of 5-0.

The committee, at the suggestion of Larry, decided to hold a "Name the Portable Tower" contest with the winner receiving an HRO gift certificate.

Howie announced that he would like to change the executive meetings to every other month instead of monthly and there was no opposition to this suggestion.

David reviewed upcoming activities and the committee will begin to plan for activities for August and the remainder of the year. Some suggestions were more demonstrations to school groups which would have to wait until the new school year convenes and working with Scouting groups.

The meeting program for the May meeting will be ATV arranged by Johnny Fearon, W4WKP. The meeting was adjourned at 20:30 local time. ♦

Bruce's coach kept up a constant litany of "Use your Karate Kick, Bruce! Use your Karate Kick!" At least a hundred other fans were rooting Bruce on, screaming at the tops of their lungs.

Under a bright ninety five degree sun sweat was pouring from Bruce's face and running around the side of the biggest grin I ever saw.

I couldn't see much by the end of the race through the tears running from my own eyes. Fifteen minutes ago the "Huggers" had completed their job with the three other racers who had already finished in this heat. They were all bent forward and crouched at the finish line screaming at Bruce. I was wishing I could have been one of those "Huggers" waiting for Bruce. He had people all over his neck and wheel chair when he finally reached that line.

About thirty minutes later our attention was directed to center field. A big blue cloth rectangle was suspended

behind three platforms of blue and gold plywood. The tallest in the middle was for 'First' place. The next tallest to its right for 'Second' place and the shortest to the left was for 'Third' place.

Bruce was up there in front of the three platforms strapped to his wheelchair. He beamed with pride as the music played for his victory. After hanging medals on the first three, the gold, silver and bronze, it came Bruce's turn to receive his 'Participant' medal. Two pretty young ladies placed the medals and gave hugs and kisses to go with the medals. "Homer the Brave" was also there. Bruce received the medal from the pretty girls, but was not interested in their kisses; he wanted to receive his "High Five" from "Homer The Brave".

Aretha came over to rest under the red-striped tent after her wheelchair race. She asked me to get her a cup of water. When I brought the cup over I was somewhat embarrassed as to how to

(Olympics, Continued on p. 13)

(OLYMPICS, Continued from p.12)

give her a drink. You see, Aretha had arms that were amputated just above the elbows and had no legs at all. She had a stainless steel tray in front of her bolted to the arms of the wheelchair. She just smiled a big warm smile at me and thanked me. She told me to put the cup down and she would be OK. I did as I was told and watched her pick up the cup between her elbows, raise it to her lips and take a long drink. She returned it carefully to her tray without spilling a drop. While sitting in the shade talking to a fellow ham a young girl named Shirley approached us and held out a red ribbon that proclaimed "Sixth Place" with a proud smile.

She couldn't speak, but her shining face told it all. Both of us rose and gave Shirley a big hug while telling her we were very proud for her.

A mother came up to me with her seven year old son. She wanted help locating the Cherokee County Coach. I passed the request to net control. A few minutes later I received word that she could find him up at the awards tent. The mother asked me if I would watch her son, who could not move very fast, while she went to get the coach. Shortly after she had gone over toward the awards tent, net control called me back to say that the coach was not at the awards tent, but was up at the other end of the field by the registration tents. I had lost the mother and had the son to care for, so I explained my problem to net control and requested a runner be sent to help. It didn't take long to get the mother, the son and the coach united. The boy made it to the 'Tennis Ball Throw'. Mother and son were happy. I felt that somehow communications could have been better.

One of the heats for the One Hundred yard dash was started with a flag instead of the usual gun when the starter realized that a young girl was terrified of the gun.

One of the runners in the 200 yard relay race kept the baton and kept running the whole distance, but the other runners took off and followed so that they all finished at the same time.

One of the participants in the 100 yard slalom wheelchair race got all the way through the cones and almost to the

finish line before he turned back around and went back the way he came. He liked the cheering crowd. The coaches finally got him turned back to the finish line.

During the 100 yard walk for those handicapped who are wearing braces or have severe leg disabilities, one of the walkers was having a lot of trouble and didn't look like he was going to make it. One of his friends, a fellow walker in the race turned around and yelled something at him. When there was no response, she came back and put her arm under his shoulders helping him. It was probably against the rules, but they both finished and got especially big hugs from the "Huggers".

This was only in the track and field events. There were events all over the Emory Campus during the 1995 Georgia Special Olympics held on Friday through Sunday of Memorial Weekend. What a great place for Amateur Radio activity.

I don't know any official numbers, but my guess is that there were at least fifty hams helping out with communications. Word was passed for announcements to help locate lost relatives and find missing coaches. First aid was obtained for three young athletes who succumbed to the hot, humid weather. Medical aid was obtained for one young person who suffered a seizure. Hundreds of requests for information about where to get food, water, rest rooms, etc., were efficiently passed. It felt good to help. It felt good to be a ham!

Would this articles' author step forward for credit? It was submitted by a GARS member attached to a note, but the body of the text did not contain the authors name. It was simply to good to omit while waiting for the authors name. We hope to publish the proper credit in next months GARZETTE. - ED ♦

ARES NEWS

by Pat Runkle, KC4DOO

ATTENTION ARES MEMBERS!

The ARES net now meets on Sunday Evening at 8PM.

Due to my new workplace and schedule ant to Ike's work schedule, we have changed the time and day of our regular ARES net to every Sunday evening at 8PM on the GARS 2-Meter repeater.

This will make it more convenient for members to be net control/alternet net control and will help to increase check-ins due to fewer conflicts for everyone. Be sure to make note of this change and I hope to hear from you on the net.

We are still waiting for additional patches from the league for those who have already paid for them. No further patches until in the fall, when new meetings will be scheduled.

Please note my change of work address and phone number: Nash's Loganville Auto Auction, 466-9000. this change will place me out of the county during the day but I have been able to reach the repeater from this location.

I am counting on all members to do their best to keep up on action for ARES on the repeater, but I can still be reached by phone and will listen to the repeater during the working hours.

Be listening for your call on the ARES net on Sunday's at 8PM.

Pat Runkle, KC4DOO

Home 945-6356

Fax 945-2056 ♦

DEMOCRACY

A democracy cannot exist as a permanent form of government. It can exist only until the voters discover that they can vote themselves largesse from the public treasury. From that time on, the majority always vote for the candidates promising the most benefits from the public treasury, with the result that a democracy always collapses over loose fiscal policy, always followed by a dictatorship.

The average age of the world's greatest civilizations has been 200 years. These nations have progressed through this sequence" from bondage to spiritual faith, from spiritual faith to great courage; from courage to liberty; from liberty to abundance; from abundance to selfishness; from selfishness to complacency; from complacency to apathy; from apathy to dependency; and from dependency back again into bondage.

-Sir Alex Fraser Tytler (1742-1813), Professor of Universal History, University of Edinburgh, collected Lectures, 1801 -from the IBM ARC "WB4QNX"

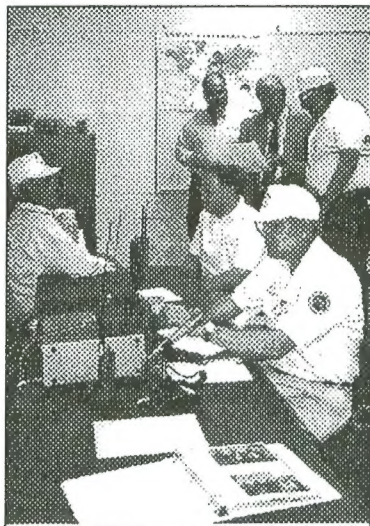
GARS Photostory, George Walton Academy ham radio demonstration



Student Adam Henderson gets a kick out of David, KA4KKF letting Adam talk over the radio.



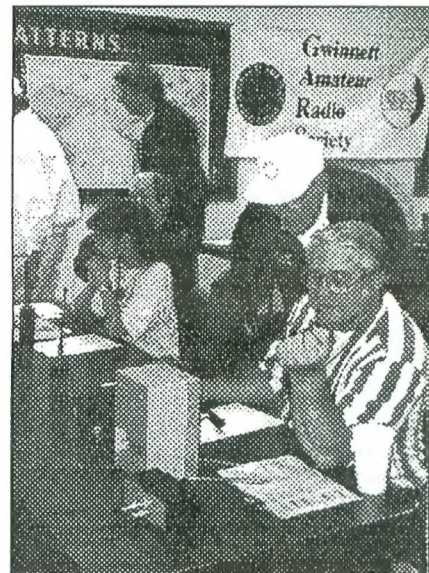
Annalee, N9KHC oversees students sending message to other students at another packet station in the room.



Pickett, AD4S mans his HF rig while Carm K1CFW and Johnnie, W4WKP rest a while. In the background, GARS President Howie, W4NVF talks with Academy Headmaster Billy Nicholson as a GWA parent looks on.



The CW station was a big hit. Charles, AD4MI is letting students, using a chart showing what Morse characters go with the alphabet, tap out Morse code on a keyer as he interprets what is sent. His ability to translate their code fascinated the students.



Charles, AD4MI being "supervised" by Howie, W4NVF as Charles tunes up his rig in preparation for a class visit. Jud, W4NZJ lurks in the background



The older students observed more than participated. Here they observe the lovely Annalee, N9KHC working her packet magic.



The best HF contact of the day was a commercial airline pilot, flying at 37,000 feet over Nebraska. Several students got to talk to him after Pickett, AD4D made the contact. Many of the kids thank-you notes published in last month's GARZETTE mentioned this contact.



Jud, W4NZJ lurks in the foreground as students take turns making HF contacts. The younger students were much less inhibited than the older ones when it came to getting on the air.

From inside the classroom, GARS at the George Walton Academy

by Carolyn Thigpen, KD4ZPM

It all started innocently enough. All I did was ask a simple question: "Do you know if GARS still does radio demonstrations for schools?"

Having attended a few GARS meetings several years ago, I had heard then that they were interested in getting into schools. My life got crazier than usual as I went through a job change adjustment, and I dropped out of GARS and radio for a time.

Trying once again to figure this ham hobby out, I purchased a mobile 2-Meter rig last fall. One evening during one of my earliest contacts, I asked the aforementioned question. Obviously I did not know the GARS members well enough, for that was all it took to spark what has to have been one of the best school radio demonstrations ever!

January, 1995 was my first GARS meeting in a couple of years. Unexpectedly, Howie brought up the matter of a radio demonstration at my school. Up until then it was simply an idea tossed around on the radio from time to time. Charles, AD4MI took charge of organizing the demonstration, and by the end of the meeting there were seven or eight volunteers already.

Thinking this would be done outdoors, we waited until April to schedule the event. As it turned out we were able to set up in my classroom, but the day could not have been better handled anytime anywhere. Before I could get to school with the key to my room, half a dozen GARS members were there, chomping at the bit to set up their

equipment. They knew exactly what they were doing and were so efficient in their set-up that antennas and coax for three HF stations and 2 packet stations were ready to go 30 minutes earlier than was scheduled. We even took an extra class of students in since everyone was ready to work!

The ability of the GARS members to relate to the young people was phenomenal. As a teacher, I was very impressed with not only the knowledge and experience available in these volunteers, but also their ability to communicate their enthusiasm and knowledge to the students.

The flexibility of the GARS members was another exceptional quality. When the packet radio could not get out due to interference, they simply set two packet stations in the room able to communicate with each other.

As students showed an interest in CW, the idea came for putting up the code on the board and letting students send CW themselves.

I even had to curb a little of the enthusiasm the students had for the HT's. The GARS members were so willing to let the students use their handi-talkies that this teacher became a bit concerned over the safety and well-being of the HT's.

The comments from teachers and administrators has all been very positive. One of the most repeated comments showed amazement over the number of radio operators there that day. They figured 2 or 3 people would come. For so

many adults to take time out of their busy schedules, many having to adjust work or vacation time to do so, made a big impression on the school personnel.

It made an impression on me as well. In a day and time when many people do not keep their word and are not trustworthy, to have a group of people be so dependable, as these GARS members were, said volumes to me.

As the one whose name was on the line if things did not go well at our school demonstration, I want to thank all those who were involved in planning and putting on this event.

Your presence and performance said much to the students, faculty, and staff of George Walton Academy.

Thanks for a job so very well done!

GARS Members present:

- * Charles, AD4MI
- * Jud, W4NZJ
- * Howie, W4NVF
- * David, KA4KKF
- * Pickett, AD4S
- Rick, KE4VDL
- Joe, AD4PZ
- Johnny, W4WKP
- Carm, K1CFW
- * Annalee, N9KHC
- * Carolyn KD4ZPM
- Jon, KE4TVB
- Buddy, KD4EHG

(* Full day volunteers)

Other amateur operators present:

- Don, KL7TF
- Jim, AC4PN

What a turnout!

Detach and Mail

GARS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION (SHORTER FORM)

Amateur Callsign: _____ Class: _____ Expires: ____/____/____ Date of Birth: ____/____/____
 Name: _____ Home Phone: _____
 Address: _____ Work-Phone: _____
 City/State/Zip: _____ Fax-Phone: _____

Additional members for Family Memberships:

CALLSIGN:

CLASS (circle 1)

BIRTH DATE

ARRL Y/N

LIFE? Y/N

E A G T + T N

____/____/____

[Y] [N]

[Y] [N]

E A G T + T N

____/____/____

[Y] [N]

[Y] [N]

E A G T + T N

____/____/____

[Y] [N]

[Y] [N]

Check Interests:

☐ -Class instruction ☐ -Field Day operation ☐ -Repeater maintenance ☐ -GARS club booth staffing ☐ -Community events ☐ -Emergency ☐ -Administrative ☐ -Fund raisers

☐ Other _____

Dues: April 1 to Sept 30

\$25.00 for Individual Memberships
\$35.00 for Family Memberships

From Oct. 1 to Dec. 31:

\$12.50 for Individual Membership
\$17.50 for Family Memberships

From Jan 1 to March 31

\$6.25 for Individual Membership
\$8.75 for Family Memberships

Type of membership: ☐ -Individual ARRL Member?
☐ -Family Life?

Y/N

Y/N



Mail your completed application with check made out to GARS to: Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society, PO Box 88 Lilburn, Ga 30226



METRO AREA TEST SESSIONS

GARS Publishes Metro Area VE/VEC Exam Schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions.

1st Sunday - 2:00PM - W5YI-VEC Duane Reynolds, WB2YAD - 623-9803
Jackson EMC, 461 Swanson Road, Lawrenceville

1st Monday - 7:30PM - Delaine McCarthy, KM4FV - 993-9758
Roswell ARRL-VEC St Ann Catholic Church - 4905 Roswell Rd - Marietta

1st Saturday - 9:00AM - George White, KN4NG 361-6850
Clayton Co. Emergency Mgmt Bldg 7496 N. McDonough St. - Jonesboro

2nd Sundays - 3:00PM - Mike Mahaffey, AD4QB - 974-7710
First Presbyterian Church 183 West Main Street, Cartersville

2nd Tuesday - 7:00PM - Wayne Taylor, WD4CCA 498-7759
Walton EMC 3645 - Lenora Church Rd, Snellville

2nd Saturday - 8:30AM - Stn Mtn CA-VEC Hal Martin, KI4RD - 978-9160
Stone Mountain Methodist Church - 5312 West Mountain St., Stone Mtn.

3rd Saturdays - 9:00AM - Larry Huff, WA4CQZ - 955-3171
Marietta First United Methodist Church 56 Whitlock Ave, Room 319

4th Sunday - 2:30PM - N Atlanta ARRL/VEC - Steve Schmidt, KR4DL - 242-6142
Episcopal Church of the Atonement - Highpoint Rd, Atlanta

4th Tuesday - 7:00PM QRV ARRL-VEC Shirley Durham, KR4KO - 949-9025
United Way Service Center - 6279 Fairburn Road, Douglasville, GA

4th Friday GARS W5YI-VEC - 7:00PM - St. John Neumann Church
801 Tom Smith Rd, off Five Forks Trickum Rd, Lilburn
Howie Gould, W4NVF 921-8362 Headphones!

HAMFEST CALENDAR

June	10	Hamfest & picnic, Athens, GA TI/146,745-
June	16-17	Albany, GA
July	22-23	Atlanta RC Hamfest, Atlanta, GA
Aug	5?	Hamfest, Perry, GA
Aug	5-6?	Hamfest, Jacksonville, FL
Aug	26	Hamfest - Confederate Sig Corps, Madison, GA

?=Date not confirmed. Several entries taken from SERA Journal.
Georgia locations are bold, Nearby locations are bold and underlined

LATE BREAKING EMERGENCY TRAFFIC

Received Sunday, 6/4/95 over the GARS repeater from KD4FOB:

Two 14 year-old girls have been missing since last Sunday, 5/28/95. One is the daughter of fellow ham, Barry, KC4FAB of QRV Electronics.

One, named Mia, is a little heavy, with long straight hair. The other, Kristin is slim with curly neck length hair.

They are driving a 1992 Honda Accord, light gold in color, with std. Ga. tags" MPW598. Only distinguishing mark on car is that one of the twin tail pipe outlets is broken. Neither girl is a licensed driver.

They are still in the region, as they have been spotted 3 times this week in the Athens and N.Gwinnett areas.

Notify Barry, KC4FAB at 706-743-3344 if you have any information to help find these girls.

Clark, Oglethorpe and Oconee County police are all aiding in the search so traffic can be directed to them through your local police too.

Pass this traffic on to other hams so these girls can be found before they come in harms way. Reported here by Dean, AD4OD aka -ED



P.O. Box 88
Lilburn, Ga 30226



Autopatch Notice:

Note the new patch codes on your mailing label. These will take effect about June 15.

GARS meeting will be at CAPTAIN BILLY'S SEAFOOD, on Pleasant Hill Rd west of the Gwinnett Place Mall on the 3rd Thursday, June 15th. Pre-meeting fellowship buffet starts at 5:30, meeting begins at 7:00pm.

